

39 MESA STREET, SUITE 300, THE PRESIDIO, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94129

Beaverhead Watershed Committee
201 North Parkview Court
Dillon, MT 59725

April 20, 2010

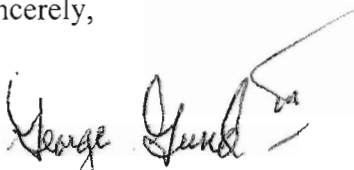
To Whom It May Concern:

I, George Gund III, express my support for the Renewable Resource Grant application submitted by the Beaverhead Conservation District and the Beaverhead Watershed Committee for fishery restoration project on Poindexter Slough.

As a property owner, I am completely behind this upgrade to the restoration of the Poindexter Slough.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my support.

Sincerely,



George Gund III

Dillon Canal Company

5/11/10

Beaverhead Watershed Committee
201 North Parkview Court
Dillon, MT 59725

To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this letter is to express our support for the Renewable Resource Grant application submitted by the Beaverhead Conservation District and the Beaverhead Watershed Committee for fishery restoration project on Poindexter Slough.

The Dillon Canal Company is in full support of the mechanical option to enhance the fishery in Poindexter Slough. Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support.

Sincerely,

David Cotton
David Cotton
President



Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Dillon Field Office Fisheries Management 730 ½ N. Montana Dillon, MT 59725

Phone: (406) 683-9310 Fax: (406) 683-4126 email: mattjaeger@mt.gov

11 May 2010

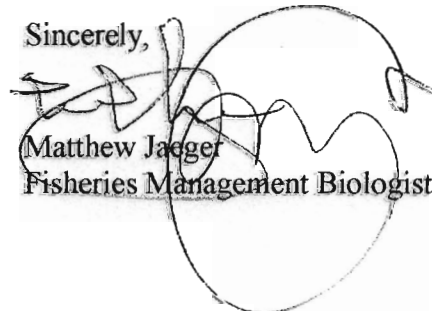
Katie Tackett
Beaverhead Watershed Committee

Dear Mrs. Tackett,

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) supports the Beaverhead Watershed Committee's efforts to provide minimum instream and flushing flows accompanied by mechanical channel restoration and bank revegetation and stabilization on Poindexter Slough. Poindexter Slough is a valuable public resource; excellent public access to high densities of trout in a spring creek-like setting close to Dillon, MT combine to create a unique angling opportunity. Presently, the two factors that most limit the potential of this fishery are 1) inability to reliably maintain the recommended minimum instream flows of 58 cfs and 2) loss of habitat caused by sedimentation. FWP feels that both of these issues can be addressed by altering existing infrastructure to accommodate more reliable instream flow and occasional sediment flushing flows as proposed by the Beaverhead Watershed Committee. We also agree that pursuing mechanical channel alterations at appropriate locations in conjunction with reliable instream flow and occasional sediment flushing flows will expedite habitat restoration and reduction of fine sediment in Poindexter Slough. As such we are supportive of pursuing either reliable instream flow and occasional sediment flushing flows by itself (Alternative 2) or in conjunction with mechanical channel restoration and bank revegetation (Alternative 4). However, FWP is not supportive of mechanical channel restoration in the absence of instream flow and occasional sediment flushing flows (Alternative 3).

We look forward to continuing to work collaboratively with the Beaverhead Watershed Committee to address the issues presently limiting the Poindexter Slough fishery, thereby enhancing this tremendous public resource.

Sincerely,



Matthew Jaeger
Fisheries Management Biologist



Beaverhead Outdoors Association

P.O. Box 1401
Dillon, Montana 59725

Beaverhead Watershed Committee
Katie Tackett
201 North Parkview Court
Dillon, MT. 59725
k_tackett@bresnan.net

9 May 2010

To whom it may concern;

The membership of the Beaverhead Outdoors Association has had mixed reaction to the proposed fisheries habitat improvements to the Poindexter Slough area of Beaverhead County. The main areas of concern are water rights and where the dislodged silt ends up. With the past several years of drought conditions, water has become a contentious issue for many members. Other members feel that an improvement to the fisheries condition of Poindexter Slough needs improvement.

The Beaverhead Outdoors Association therefore must take a conservative position on this project. We can support alternatives one (1) and three (3) as improvements to fishing can be accomplished while not affecting water rights. A new approach to grazing must also be undertaken. Look where big game is, following the cows. Most game has moved off public lands and onto managed private lands. Habitat management by FWP has been lacking at best.

Steve Jennings
President



Fishing Outfitters Association of Montana
PO Box 67 Gallatin Gateway MT 59730
(406) 763-5436

April 29, 2010

Beaverhead Watershed Committee
201 North Parkview Court
Dillon MT 59725

Re: Support for Renewable Resource Grant, Poindexter Slough

To Whom It May Concern:

The Fishing Outfitters Association of Montana, FOAM, supports the Renewable Resource Grant application from the Beaverhead Watershed Committee and the Beaverhead Conservation District. We understand the grant monies will be used to support fishery restoration efforts on Poindexter Slough.

Poindexter Slough has provided welcome opportunities for recreation and commercial guiding for years. The proposed restoration project will certainly enhance the existing resource, increase successful angling on the Slough, and may provide additional opportunities for enjoyment of this important angling resource.

FOAM has long maintained a positive relationship with the Beaverhead Watershed Committee; indeed, several of our members and directors were founding members of the BWC, and we look forward to continued involvement in the successful and long-term work of the Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to lend our support for this timely grant application for an important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robin Cunningham', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robin Cunningham
Executive Director
FOAM

Sender: "Ryan, Jeff" <jeryan@mt.gov>

E-mail Source

Subject: Support of Proposed Poindexter Slough Aquatic Enhancement Project/Beaverhead Watershed Committee

Date: Thu, 6 May 2010 09:03:09 -0600

To: "k_tackett@bresnan.net" <k_tackett@bresnan.net>

Cc: "Yashan, Dean" <DYashan@mt.gov>, "Zhinin, Kristy" <KZhinin@mt.gov>, "Lere, Mark" <mlere@mt.gov>, "Jaeger, Matt" <mattjaeger@mt.gov>, "Romankiewicz, Christopher" <CRomankiewicz@mt.gov>, "Darling, Jim" <jdarling@mt.gov>, "Chambers, Jenny" <JChambers@mt.gov>

Katie, please consider this email a notice of support for the subject project. I am a Water Quality Specialist with DEQ and one of my primary responsibilities is issuing turbidity permits (318 Authorizations) and providing 401 Water Quality Certification for 404 permits that involve projects of this nature.

Since I have not had the opportunity to review the final design, through the permitting process, I would have to qualify the support to the conceptual nature of this project. However, having been involved with permitting numerous projects of this nature, they typically, if done properly, are very successful in enhancing fisheries and improving water quality (sediment reduction and lowering water temperatures).

I hope your group is successful in their funding efforts and look forward to reviewing the final project design during the permitting process.

April 29, 2010

RE: Poindexter Slough Enhancement Project

Katie Tackett, Beaverhead Watershed Coordinator

Dear Katie Tackett,

As our chapter's representative on the Poindexter Slough Project, I write on behalf of Lewis and Clark Trout Unlimited in support of the mechanical option to enhance the viability of the slough as presented by Confluence in March at the Beaverhead Watershed meeting.

Our decision is based upon many other successful samples of spring creek enhancement, rehabilitation and development from Dillon to Whitehall over the past several years. Our chapter believes that careful implementation will improve the overall character of Poindexter with very minimal or no long-range negative impact.

Our chapter also supports a minimum flow target of 50 cfs to ensure that the channel and fish counts are maintained year-round.

Poindexter Slough has been a world-class fishery and this status should demand the care and maintenance worthy of its reputation.

Sincerely,

Jerry Kustich on behalf of Lewis & Clark Chapter of MT's Trout Unlimited



Beaverhead County Commissioners

2 South Pacific Street, Ste. #4

Dillon, Montana 59725-4000

Phone: (406)683-3750 Fax: (406)683-3769

trice@co.beaverhead.mt.us

ghaugland@co.beaverhead.mt.us

mmcginley@co.beaverhead.mt.us

April 14, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

The Beaverhead County Commissioners support the Beaverhead Watershed Committee's quest to acquire a Renewable Resource Grant (RRG) through the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC).

The RRG funds would provide \pm 30% of the estimated funding to complete a fish habitat restoration project on Poindexter Slough near Dillon.

The project will significantly improve the public fishery and reduce habitat for Whirling Disease.

Managing our water resources adds to our local economy and a solid tax base.

The Beaverhead County Commissioners urge the DNRC to fully fund the Beaverhead Watershed Committee's grant request.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Michael J. McGinley in cursive.

Michael J. McGinley
Chairman

Handwritten signature of Garth L. Haugland in cursive.

Garth L. Haugland
Commissioner

Handwritten signature of C. Thomas Rice in cursive.

C. Thomas Rice
Commissioner

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